A

LETTER

FROM

A certain Great Man

TO

CALEB D'ANVERS

OF

GRAY's-INN, Esq;

With some proper Hints, relating to the *Vienna Treaty*.

What this Treaty will prove, Thou can'st not divine;
His PEACE ROBIN *holds, pr'ythee,* CALEB, *hold thine.*

Printed in the Year, 1731.

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LETTER

FROM

A certain Great Man, &c.

Mr. D' Anvers,

WHilſt ſome Perſons are congratulating Themſelves, and careſſing one another on the *new Peace*, lately arrived from *Vienna*, I chuſe to wiſh you Joy, in particular, on this great Event, which now engages the Attention of the Publick, and portends ſome wonderful Turn in the Affairs of *Europe*.

I congratulate you, Mr. *D' Anvers*, upon this Occaſion, becauſe we are told that it is *ſuch a Peace*, as you have long ago pointed out and recommended, in the moſt ſollicitous Manner, to the Conſideration of thoſe, who have had the Honour to direct our publick Negotiations. I mean a *general Treaty of Peace*, containing a definitive Accommodation of all the Differences, in which we have been unhappily involv'd, as well as full Reparation for the Loſſes We have unjuſtly ſuſtain'd; a particular Confirmation of all our Intereſts, which have been ſo notoriouſly invaded; and a ſpecifick Recognition of thoſe Rights, which have been ſo unaccountably brought into Diſpute.

What

What a Pleaſure muſt it be to you, in your old Age, to ſee the great End of your Labours thus far accompliſhed; to behold the *dirty Writers* againſt you, under an awkard Neceſſity of eſpouſig your Cauſe and acknowledging the Strength of your Reaſonings; without daring to brand you any longer as the Advocate of an *ungrateful, perfidious Prince*; or the Tool of an *Imperial Faction*, and *Germaniz'd Patriots?*

As you never ſeem'd aſhamed of theſe *Imputations*, whilſt They were thrown out againſt you; ſo the *preſent State of Affairs* muſt give you infinite Satisfaction; and I hope you will defeat the only Expectation of your *Enemies*, by ſhewing that you are the *ſame Man* ſtill; conſiſtent in your Principles of Politicks, with relation to his *Imperial Majeſty*; and that *You* ſcorn to temporize, as *They* do, upon every little Turn, or Fluctuation of Affairs.

This happy *Revolution of Politicks* cannot be more agreeable to *You* and all *good Engliſhmen*, than it muſt be mortifying to *Mynheer Van Ripperda*, who negotiated a vile *Popiſh Treaty* ſome Years ago, at the ſame Place, in order to deprive us of our *Commerce*; to wreſt *Gibraltar* and *Portmahon* out of our Hands; to foiſt the *Pretender* upon us; and eſtabliſh an univerſal Monarchy in *Europe*.

It is to be hoped that this *Proteſtant Treaty at Vienna* (for we muſt diſtinguiſh it by *that Name*, to prevent Confuſion) will abſolutely defeat all the bad Deſigns of the *other Popiſh Treaty*, and free us from the Apprehenſions and Expences, which it hath occaſioned. The Benefits of it to *this Nation* will, We doubt not, ſoon unfold Themſelves, by the immediate Diſcharge of the *Heſſian* Troops, and a conſiderable Reduction of our *own Land Forces*. *Dunkirk* will be once more effectually demoliſh'd and the Colony of *Santa Lucia*, in Violation of *Treaties*, will be likewiſe withdrawn. The *Forts*, lately erected to anoy the Garriſon and Harbour of *Gibraltar* will be level'd with the Ground; and the Defect, ſo much complain'd of and acknowledg'd in the Treaty of *Utrecht*, will be ſupply'd, by the Grant of a proper Diſtrict round *that Garriſon* from the Crown of *Spain*. Our *Merchants* will receive full Satisfaction for all their paſt Sufferings, and have Liberty to exerciſe their undoubted Right of *Trade* without any farther Moleſtation.

Theſe Things are the leaſt We can expect from a *Treaty*, upon which the *Perſons*, more immediately concern'd in it, have expreſſed ſo much extraordinary Joy, and

which

which They have repreſented ſo very advantageous, that it would effectually ſilence the Clamours of *Malecontents*, and give intire Satisfaction to *all Parties*.

You will obſerve, Sir, that I have mentioned nothing concerning Satisfaction for thoſe vaſt *Expences*, which this Nation hath already been at, to procure ſuch a *Peace*, though I might very reaſonably do it; for We have certainly as much Right to expect that the great Charge of the *Heſſian* Troops, kept in our Pay for ſeveral Years with this Deſign, (if We may believe the *miniſterial Writers*) ſhould be defray'd, as the *Emperor* hath to expect a Reimburſement of his Expences, in marching and ſupporting his Troops in *Italy*; but We are unwilling to lay too much upon the *Gentlemen in Power*, and ſhall be well enough ſatisfy'd, as Things go, if They effectually ſecure us from any *ſuch Expences*, for the future.

At the ſame Time that I congratulate you, Sir, upon this Subject, I muſt expreſs my Surprize that the *Writers* on the *other Side*, ſhould affect to triumph over you, whilſt They are really *taking Shame to themſelves*, and ſinging *Io Paeans* on your Succeſs; for if They will give Themſelves the Trouble of looking over all your Papers, with Regard to the Court of *Vienna*, from the firſt Commencement of the *Craftſman*, They will find them amply juſtified by the preſent Conduct and Meaſures of their *own Patron*; whereas I will undertake to prove that all *their Writings*, in Anſwer to *You*, are the ſevereſt Satires upon *Him*. You have conſtantly endeavour'd to inculcate the Expediency of returning to our *old, natural Allyance* with the *Emperor*; whilſt They, on the contrary, have not only repreſented Him, in the moſt licentious Manner, as a *Perſon*, in whom We could put no *Confidence*; but have likewiſe made it their Buſineſs to prove that He was grown ſo *formidable*, by the natural Fluctuation of Power, that it was become the true Intereſt of *Great-Britain* to humble and reduce Him. Whilſt *You* have been lamenting our late unhappy Miſunderſtandings with *that Prince*, and recommending *healing Meaſures*; They, on the other Hand, have ſpared no Pains to depreciate his *private Character*; to aggravate his *publick Conduct*; and exaſperate the *Britiſh* Nation againſt Him —— If you could find Leiſure, Mr. *D'Anvers*, to collect ſome Paſſages, of this Nature, out of their moſt celebrated Productions, for *four* or *five* Years paſt, and to put them together in one View, I am ſure it would furniſh a very agreeable Entertainment to your Readers.

Is

Is it not therefore very ridiculous in *these Writers* to affect an Air of Triumph over *You*, when They are abſolutely defeated *Themſelves*; driven out of all their ſtale Topicks againſt the *Emperor*; and oblig'd, by the natural Event of Affairs, to acknowledge that They have been arguing like *Knaves*, or *Blockheads*, for above *four Years* together? But *Inconſiſtency* is the diſtinguiſhing Characteriſtick of *theſe Men*; and the nauſeous, ill-tim'd Flattery, with which they have be-daub'd their *Patron* upon this Occaſion, are another Inſtance of it as ridiculous as their pretended Victory over *You*; for admitting *this Treaty*, or *Convention of Peace*, to be as honourable and advantageous as They repreſent it, and We are willing to believe; what is it more than an Accommodation of the Squabbles of *Europe*, in which We had originally no material Concern, and only a meer *Quietus to us*, after We have been at an infinite Expence, and brought our *own Intereſts* into imminent Danger, by engageing our ſelves in the Diſputes of *other Princes*? ——— How can it be call'd a Treaty of *Peace*, when there hath been no Declaration of *War*? It will be ſaid, perhaps, that the *Spaniards* have made War upon *Us*, by taking our Ships, in a moſt unprecedented Manner, and laying Siege to *Gibraltar*; but there hath been no *mutual War*; no Commiſſion, or Return of Hoſtilities on *our Part*; unleſs our *blocking up their Galleons before Portobello* can be juſtly called an *Hoſtility*, as *They* pretend, and *We* have conſtantly deny'd.

And here, M. *D'Anvers*, I muſt beg Leave to wiſh you Joy, on another Account; I mean with Regard to the *Hague Letter*, which you publiſhed almoſt three Months ago, concerning a Negotiation at *Vienna*; for though no body can be more willing to believe that *this Treaty* hath laid a ſolid Foundation for a *general Peace*; yet at preſent it does not appear that any other Powers have acceded to it than *Great Britain* and the *Emperor*. We are told, indeed, that the other Allies of *Seville* are invited into it, and I hope They will accept the Invitation; but can it be called a *general Peace*, till They have accepted it? ——— Why was the Treaty of *Utrecht* call'd a *ſeperate Treaty*? If I am rightly inform'd, the Negotiations were conſtantly communicated to the *Allies*, though ſome of them did not think fit to approve them; and when the *Treaty* was ſigned without their Concurrence, They were invited to *accede* to it, as They did at laſt ——Why was the Treaty of *Vienna* (I mean *Ripperda's Popiſh Treaty*) call'd a *ſeperate Treaty*? For though the Negotiations were not communicated

municated to the *other Powers*, who were ſuppoſed to be concerned in it, as the Negotiations of the Treaty of *Utrecht* were to the *Emperor* and *Holland*; yet Room was left for our *Acceſſion*, and We were *invited* into it.——If therefore you had affirmed, that We were carrying on a *ſeperate Negotiation* at *Vienna*, as in Fact you did not, I think you ſufficiently juſtify'd in it.——Let me add farther, that even *ſeperate Negotiations* (by which I mean ſuch as are carried on at firſt without a general Concert of the *Allies*) may happen to conclude in a *general Treaty*; becauſe *thoſe Powers*, who were not conſulted at firſt upon the Manner of ſuch Negotiations, may be induc'd to concur in them, when They are communicated to Them; ſo that if the *late Convention* at *Vienna* did really include all the Allies of *Seville*, it would be no Proof that *We* did not begin to negotiate there *firſt*. But, at preſent, even the *Treaty* itſelf does not appear to be *general*, whatever the *Negotiations* may have been.

It is very probable that the *Dutch* will ſoon accede to *this Treaty*; and we hope their *Acceſſion* will be full and abſolute, without any ſuch *Reſtrictions* and *Limitations* as have appear'd in ſome *former Acceſſions*.

We likewiſe wiſh that *France* may prove in a Diſpoſition to concur in the *ſame Meaſures*; though if we may preſume to judge by *Appearances*, or give any Credit to *Advices* from abroad, both publick and private, they do not yet ſeem to reliſh them.——The preſent Language of *that Court*, can be no Secret to any Body, who hath the leaſt Intelligence from thence.——We have, beſides, ſeen Accounts in our *News-Papers*, that Complaints have been lately made there againſt the Conduct of ſome *Engliſh Veſſels*, appointed to prevent the miſchievous Practice of *Owling* and *Smugling*, which they are pleas'd to term *Engliſh Guarde de Cotes*; that they have a Deſign of erecting *Forts* along the Coaſt, as the *Spaniards* have done about the Bay of *Gibraltar*, to check this Inſolence of the *Engliſh*; and, what is ſtill more, that they have lately clapt up the Maſter of an *Engliſh* Veſſel and ſome of his Men, in the Caſtle of *Dunkirk*, under a Pretence of their having thrown out ſome Stones at the Mouth of *that Harbour*.——I mention *theſe Points* only as ſuſpicious Symptoms of ſome little Uneaſineſs between us.

But it will be ſaid (as I have heard it ſaid already) that if we can accommodate Matters with *Spain* and the *Emperor*, in which *Holland* will readily concur, we can have no Reaſon to ſtand in Fear of *France*. I am ſure,

Sir,

Sir, you will agree with me in allowing This; for it is a Doctrine, which you have conſtantly inculated and labour'd to prove for ſeveral Years paſt; though, perhaps, it may be made a Doubt whether we had not leſs Reaſon to apprehend any Thing from *France*, when you firſt began to write, than now; and as the profeſs'd Deſign of the Treaty of *Seville*, I mean a *general Peace*, was obſtructed by the Want of *one Acceſſion*, whether the Treaty of *Vienna* may not prove equally ineffectual, for Want of *another*; but, to lay aſide all ſuch Reflections at preſent, let us ſtick to the Point immediately before us.——If then it ſhould be judg'd expedient to run the Hazard of loſing the Friendſhip of *France*, by cultivating That of the *Emperor*; (which I hope will not be our Caſe;) what Glory can *ſome Gentlemen* take to themſelves, who have at length ſeen the Expediency of *ſuch a Meaſure*; or with what Face can they pretend to triumph over *other Gentlemen*, who have endeavour'd to point it out to them, by writing and ſpeaking, for many Years together?——I will not ſay, as ſome Perſons have ſaid, that they have been *ſhamed* and almoſt *forced* into it, by the *general Voice of the Nation*, after they had perſever'd in *another Method*, till they found themſelves unable to purſue it *any longer*.

As to *Spain*, I think we have no Reaſon to doubt their Concurrence, if the immediate Succeſſion of *Don Carlos* to the Dominions of *Tuſcany* and *Parma*, without Oppoſition, is to be the Price of it; but I muſt take the Liberty to obſerve that This ſeems to be a Stipulation in Favour of the *Queen of Spain*, rather than of the *Spaniſh Nation*; and if his *Catholick Majeſty* ſhould abdicate, or happen to die, ſoon after *this Treaty* takes Effect, let it be conſider'd whether his *Succeſſor* will think Himſelf under any Obligation to *Great Britan* on this Account,

I muſt however repeat my Acknowledgment that I think Affairs are in the *right Train* at laſt; and I hope they will continue ſucceſsfully in it, upon equal and honourable Terms. I ſhall therefore conclude as I begun with congratulating *You* on this great Turn of Affairs, and aſſuring you that I have always been, both in Principle and Profeſſion in the ſame Sentiments, with Relation to *Great Britain* and the *Empire*; for which Reaſon, I chuſe to ſubſcribe myſelf,

A Lover of my Country, and Sir,

Your humble Servant

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ANGLO-GERMANICUS.